

Tonight's

passage – Ruth 1.⁶⁻²²

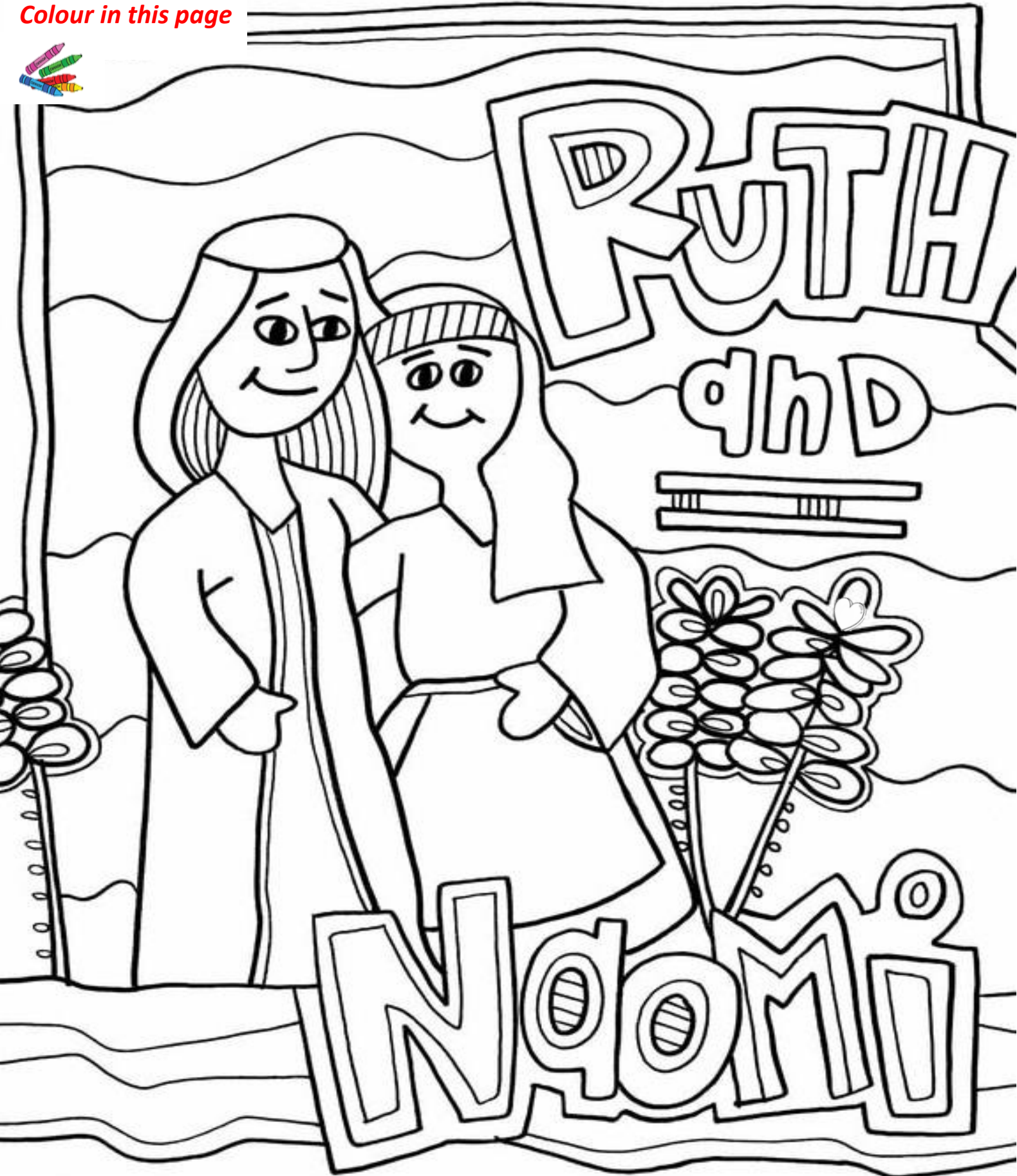
theme – It's His story!

Even when things are going badly and God seems to have forgotten us it's important to remember that God loves us – so on every page of the worksheet there's a heart.

See if you can find the heart on each of the pages.



Colour in this page



Read Ruth 1 verses 1-2

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land.

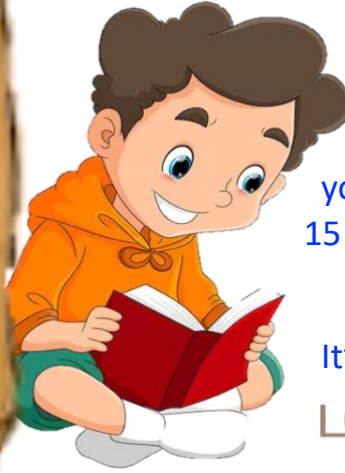
So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab.

² The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion.

They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah.

And they went to Moab and lived there.

The book of Ruth



The book of Ruth is quite short.

It's only four chapters long, and you can read the whole book in 15 minutes or so!

It's sort of a

LOVE STORY

But it's **a lot more** than just that!

It's the story of how God began to turn a whole nation round when they'd gone off the rails.

And the story starts with one person, a lady called

Draw round the letters below to see what her name was



NAOMI

background

Fill in the missing letters on each line: the letters you'll need are in brackets.

Her name means **P _ E _ S _ N _** (TALA)

Her husband was called **E _ I _ E _ E _** (KLLM)

His name means **G _ D _ _ S _ M _ K _ N _** (GOYII)

She lived in **B _ T _ L _ H _ M** (HEEE)

She lived at the time of the **J _ D _ E _** (SUG)

She had two **S _ N _** (SO)



Tough times

Read Ruth 1 verses 3-6



³ Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons.

⁴ They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth.

After they had lived there about ten years, ⁵ both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶ When Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there.

Circle the places on the map

She went from

_____ E H E M
to _____ AB

Tough times come

Sometimes things happen which make life hard for us, and which leave us feeling sad: and which sometimes leave us feeling that God doesn't seem to care for us!

There were three different sorts of trouble and difficulty which came the way of the lady in the story: can you see what they were?

Check out v.1 on the previous page

1 There was a _____ which meant there was no _____



2 She had to go and live in a strange land. How many years did she live there? ➡

3 The people dearest to her all died. She was very sad. How many people died? ➡ ➡



Read
Ruth 1
verses 16-22

¹⁶ Ruth said, 'Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.' ¹⁸ When Naomi realised that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

¹⁹ So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they arrived in Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women exclaimed, 'Can this be Naomi?'

²⁰ 'Don't call me Naomi,' she told them. 'Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter. ²¹ I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi? The LORD has afflicted me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me.'

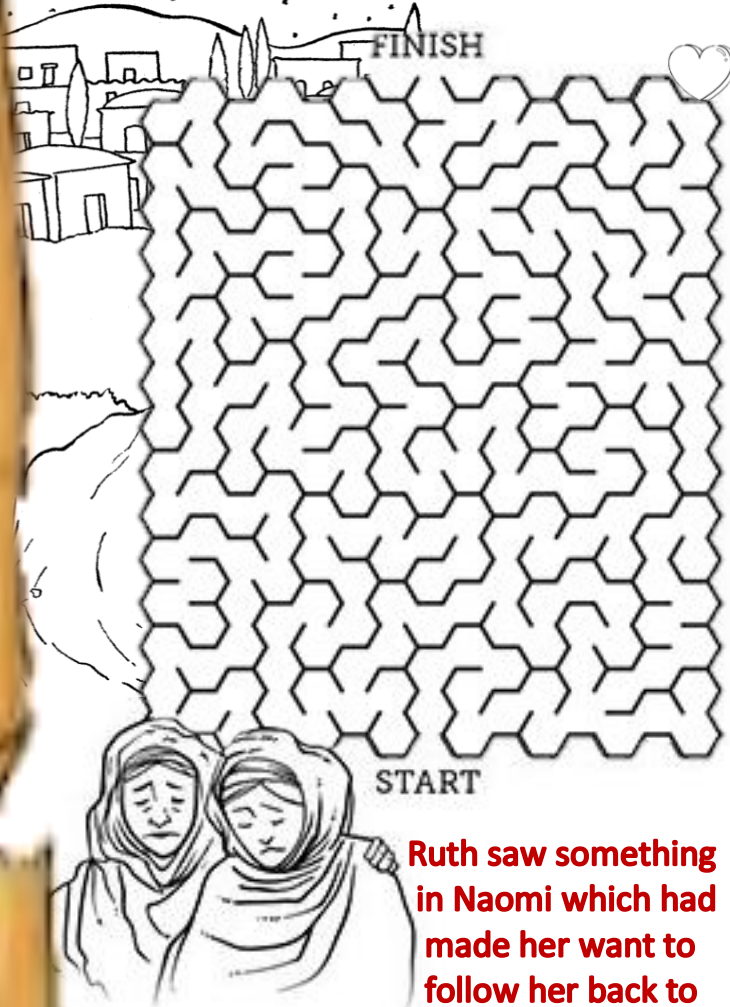
²² So Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning.

your
God

will be my God

Ruth went back to Bethlehem with Naomi.

See if you can help them reach the FINISH!

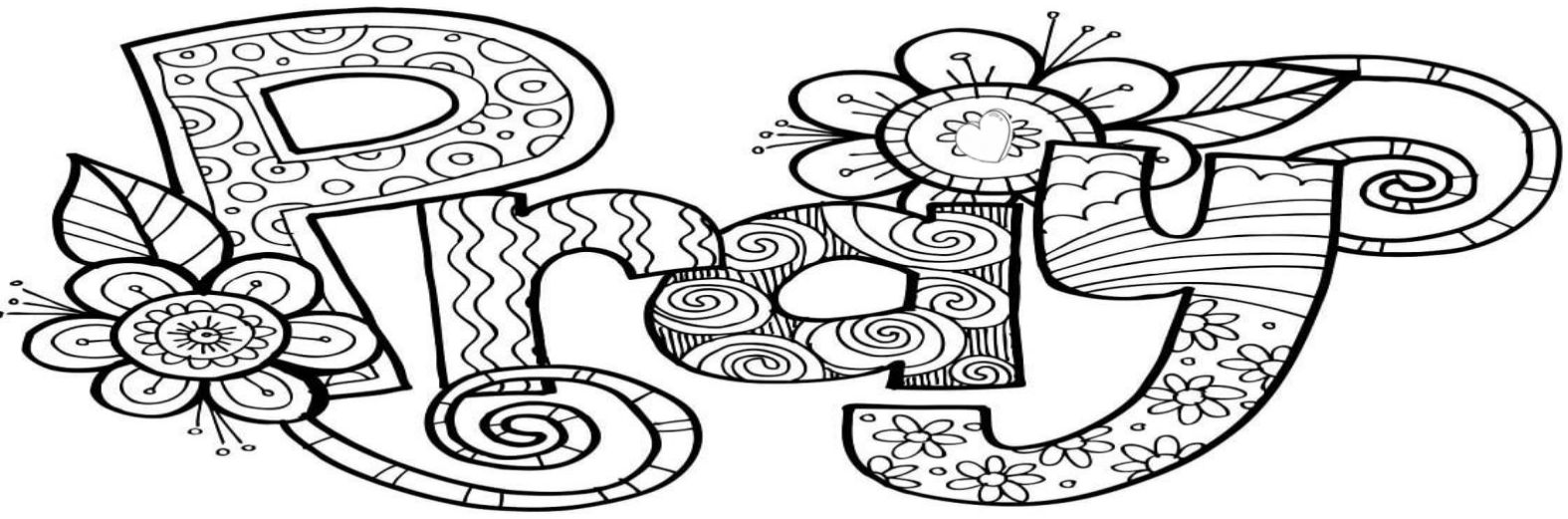


Ruth saw something in Naomi which had made her want to follow her back to Bethlehem.

TRUSTING THE LORD

Naomi shows us what trusting Jesus is like.

- **She returned to living her life with God at the centre.**
- **She poured out her heart, and didn't pretend she felt OK when she didn't.**
- **She recognised that the Lord is always in charge and knows what He's doing.**



Think about what you've been learning in this worksheet.

Speak to God about what you've learned: if you want, use this prayer to help you

Thank You, Lord, for the people who love me.

Thank You for all the presents I've been given and all the kindness people have shown me.

And thank You, too, for all the times I've been reminded of the story of Your birth. I'm so glad that You've come to us, and that You know what it's like to be a child.

I'm glad to learn from all the stories in the Bible. It helps me learn to trust You and follow You.

It must have been hard for Naomi: thank You that You cared for her.

There are so many people like her in the world today – people in lands where there's no food, people who have had to go and live in a foreign country, and people who are really sad. Please help them all, Lord Jesus.



**Today's verse for you
to try and remember!**

**“Your people will
be my people and
your God my God”**

Ruth 1.¹⁶



Wordsearch

The Wordsearch is taken from the story of Naomi and Ruth. See if you can find all the words!

R M B O A Z R Q U X J J V I S S L
N A O M I H O U L B T E Y F U A W
V T G O D A L P Y W P S B X P G K
Z D G X I R B R Q C F U F K S Q Y
G U B J W V E L P R O S T T A D K
W W E X M E T E O R P A H T G W W
M E H D P S H P M R V B S F A C L
Y B S M J T L F B A R L E Y P J X
M U H B U R E P M J R W P V E Y E
T U V R I E H I M O A B K E L M Y
W F D R G S E X J E S O N J P W P
P S L O V E M I R C U E U F G U S
D L B R E U C V H L M K P A M V X
W G B U J Q B B Z I O T K M P S G
Q U F T F A M I L Y U F F I P E N
T V H H H S D O J I T L S N S V X
Y E O M Z Z M D E R O S N E H D S

Family
God



Jesus
Harvest
Barley
Moab

Son
Famine
Naomi
Orpah

Love
Bethlehem
Boaz
Ruth

COLOUR in the picture

Ruth decided to follow Naomi back to the land of Judah.
Naomi's other daughter-in-law, Orpah, decided to stay in Moab.

